

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK**Sunday of the Prodigal Son, Feb. 16, 2025**

9:00 AM - Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

11:00 AM - Lit. + Anna & Steve Mysak

r/by Daughter, Susan

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

7:30 AM - Lit. + Msgr. Victor Pospishil - Legate

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

7:30 AM - Lit. + Petro Stachiw - Legate

Thursday, February 20, 2025

7:30 AM - Lit. + Charles Kopcho Sr., Charles Kopcho Jr.

Friday, February 21, 2025

8:45 AM - Lit. Health of Christina Debarry

r/by Larissa & Andy Wowk

Saturday, February 22, 2025

8:00 AM - Lit. + Ihor Chobit r/by wife Alla and children

5:00 PM - Lit. + George Swaryczewsky

r/by Andy & Larissa Wowk

Sunday of Meat Fare, Feb. 23, 2025*Epistle - 1 Cor 8:8-9:2; Gospel - Mt 25:31-46*

9:00 AM - Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

11:30 AM - Lit. + Charles Biloholowski

r/by Son and Family

St. Ann Society Candyland Gift Auction

Sunday March 2, 2025.

Doors open at 11:00 am, drawings begin at 1:30 pm.

Admission ticket \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

Admission includes one sheet of tickets for Level 1, free cake and coffee. Delicious food will be available for sale.

100s of Fabulous Prizes and Baskets

Gift Card Extravaganza, 50/50, Visa Gift Card Raffle

It's your Lucky Day 50/50

DISCOUNT TICKET BUNDLE AVAILABLE.

For tickets call the rectory or buy them after the church service. Any questions please ask or email Colette, ketrn@comcast.net

Religious Education for the Parish Youth and Women in FEBRUARY.

- February 21 - children 10-12 years old (grades 5, 6, 7), Friday, 6:30-8:30 pm
- February 22 - teenagers (13-18 years old), Saturday, 6:30-8:30 pm

Coffee Machine

The commercial coffee machine located in the school kitchen has not been working for several weeks. Attempts to repair it have failed, because the machine was over forty years old. We were ready to purchase a new one for over four thousand dollars, but our good parishioners found a slightly used one in Lancaster PA for \$700. John and Colette Baginsky, took a long trip there and not only brought but also installed a machine for everyone to use at the school kitchen. What a lucky find and a big savings for the parish. Thanks.

Sorokousty Lenten Memorial Service

Lent will begin on Monday, March 3rd, 2025 and as is the usual custom of our Church, we will remember our dearly departed ones during Lent by our private prayers and during Sorokousty - a special service for the deceased at 9 a.m. on all Saturdays of Lent, starting with Saturday, March 8th.

If you wish to have your departed loved ones remembered at that time, please place their name(s) on the Special Remembrance envelope. Let us remember and pray for our deceased family members. Submit the names of your beloved departed and plan on attending the Sorokousty Service every Saturday morning during the Great Lent. Please submit your names to be remembered before Monday, March 3, 2025.

Save the date!

- March 9 - Taras Shevchenko concert
- March 30 - Pysanka Workshop
- April 5- 6 - Lenten Mission
- April 9 - Station of the Cross - Seminarians from Rome will lead the service.

WELCOME TO ASSUMPTION!

Whether young or old, female or male, homeless or housed—you are welcome here. Whatever the color of your skin or your cultural heritage—you are welcome here. Whether you have never been in church before today, or if you attend church regularly—you are welcome here.

You are welcome here because Christ welcomes you and, therefore, so do we!

Today: Sunday of the Prodigal Son.

On the third Sunday of preparation for Lent, we hear the parable of the Prodigal Son. Together with the hymns on this day, the parable reveals to us the time of repentance as man's return from exile. This parable of God's forgiveness calls us to "come to ourselves" as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the journey of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism & Chrismation - for infants and adults; by arrangement in advance with the Pastor.

Holy Matrimony (Marriage) - please make an appointment with the Pastor at least six months in advance. All couples are required to attend the Marriage Preparation Program and are expected to be active members of the church community.

Anointing of the Sick - for healing and recovery, in all cases of surgery and grave illness (spiritual or physical), please call the Parish Office at 732-826-0767. For emergencies please call Fr. Ivan's cellphone 202-368-2408

Our parish teenagers Gather to Learn, Despite Snow.

Ukrainian American faith and culture is centered around family, hospitality, and the celebration of traditions. In the broadest sense of the word, faith and culture are inextricably connected because a culture is always an expression of the faith which informs it.

This past week, despite the winter storm warnings and the snow, the Assumption Parish youth gathered at the convent of the sisters Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matara for an evening of faith growing and of pinching perogies (вареники) and learning about One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. With their fingers deep in dough, our teenagers helped Sr. Veronika, Sr. Svitanku and Sr. Trijtsia wherever they were needed, from passing out supplies, rolling, cutting and filling dough, to bringing the pinched pierogies over to be cooked for a delicious dinner. Everyone had a great time of learning and working.

ASK FATHER A QUESTION?

- **Father, why do you incense the PEOPLE in addition to the church altar and icons?**

Incense is a pleasing aroma to the Lord, and which covers the "stench" of our sins. In burning incense, we cover up the "smell" of our sins. Burning of incense is included in Liturgy all the way back to God's instructions to Moses. You will notice, always in Liturgy, Old and New Testament we encounter God in His Holy House with all of our senses: smells, sights, hearing, touching, and tasting. The burning of incense not only reminds us, but asks God to receive our prayers as He receives the smoke as it rises from the censor. There are approximately 150 references to incense in the Scriptures. Incense reminds us of God's very real presence. Don't forget that the icons make the saint depicted present, because they are not dead but alive to God. So the people are blessed because we are living icons and we are reminded to live like the saints and the martyrs depicted in the icons that are also incensed.

- **Do priests remember what we say in confession?**

So often, people will ask if I remember people's sin from Confession. As a priest, I rarely remember sins from the confessional. That might seem impossible, but the truth is, sins aren't all that impressive. They aren't like memorable sunsets or meteor showers or super-intriguing movies... they are more like the garbage.